NEWS OF AUTHORS AND BOOKS

OSCAR E. RILEY CONTRIBUTES RARE VOLUMES

Graduate of School of Journalism Finds Pleasure in Hunting Out Old Tomes.

BIBLE OF 1644 OLDEST

Last Offerings Are Two Volumes of Edinburgh Review, Published in 1817 and 1818.

He doesn't care how dusty they are, the old second-hand book stores, with their bins of books on the outside—bins holding battered volumes that would repel many passers. And he doesn't mind the deafness of the old man who keeps the shop. Neither does the bad lighting in the old place keep him away, nor does he fear the tumbling ladder he climbs to reach the top shelf where he is lured by the possibilities of a cracked leather binding whose title is not legible.

That very book in the darkest corner, on the topmost shelf may be a rare old book, and Oscar E. Riley, formerly a student in the School of Journalism is interested in unusual books.

When he discovers a very old book, or one belonging to a well-known edition which is limited, he buys it and sends it to the University of Missouri.

In the University Library, kept carefully behind glass doors, is a copy of Martin Luther's translations of the Bible which was printed in 1644. Mr. Riley found it in a second-hand book stall. The printing is in German.

The thick board backs over which are stretched thin leather coverings, the corners of the front cover, carefully and elaborately decorated with brass pieces bearing the tarnish of three centuries, the broken clasps meant to hold the heavy book together, the holes in the cover eaten by an inquisitive bookworm—all have a fascination no modern book could hold.

Many book collectors would give—well, almost anything, to possess a copy of the first bound edition of The Spectator which Mr Riley has sent to the Journalism Library. The book was printed in 1822, but contains the first eight volumes of The Spectator as published beginning March 1, 1790.

Brownish yellow age spots on the paper and a musty odor betray the age of The Spectator as well as do the quaint expressions and words of Addison and Steele.

Two of the first editions of "Chamber's Journal of Popular Literature, Science and Arts" issued in 1854, found by Mr. Riley, are in the library of Jay H. Neff Hall.

"Traveling Babies," "Charcoal Ventilators for Dwelling Houses and Sheps," "An Episode in Monkey Life," and "A Sad Song," all titles chosen from the contents of one month's issue, show that modern magazines are not alone in treating of a variety of subjects.

The last two books sent to the School of Journalism by Mr. Riley are the first and second bound volumes of the Edinburgh Review, published in 1817 and 1818. Ponderous books they are in size and in contents. The first story in the first magazine is headed "Observations on the Introduction Into Scotland, and the Use Made There of the Instrument of Torture called Thumbskins," language thoroughly in keeping with that of the sturdy reader of "The Scots Magazine." And old as they are, these volumes, their Scotch characteristics still cling to them. While having lost some of the freshness of appearance that goes with a new book, these volumes are apparently as strong and sturdy as they were more than a hundred years ago.

Mr. Riley was graduated from the School of Journalism in 1911, going to the St. Louis Globe-Democrat, then to the Japan Advertiser in Tokyo, to work. He became manager of the Japan Society, New York City, and is now American secretary of the consulate general of Japan and lives in New York.

RELIGION NEEDED IN PRISON

Christian Influence Is Vital to Those in Jail.

After twenty-five years of rescue work in Iowa prisons, Mrs. Harriette B. Gunn has produced a book on prison life, valuable to all those who, in any way, are interested in prison life.

Wife of a prison chaplain, she had ample opportunity to see the effect that jail has on its inmates and also the effect that religious influences have.

Example follows example. The life in prison is somewhat passed over, emphasis being placed mainly on the Christian influence in prison.

A deeply interesting book is "In the Shadow of the Wall." It carries a message of importance.

(Christopher Publishing House, Boston; cloth, 283 pages, $2.50 net.)

"Garden Songs" for Flower Lovers.

Short poems of the garden, dealing mainly with those flowers which we usually consider a part of our grandmother's garden, comprise the offerings of Lura Coolley Hamil in "Garden Songs." Mrs. Hamil has embodied some music in these little poems. For one who seeks a bit of song and who loves flowers, the book is recommended.

(The Four Seas Co., Boston; paper, illustrated with drawings, 43 pages.)

BEST SELLERS IN COLUMBIA SHOPS

"Gentle Julia"—Booth Tarkington.
"The Breaking Point"—Mary Roberts Rinehart.
"This Freedom"—A. S. M. Hutchinson.
"The Glimpses of the Moon"—Edith Wharton.
"The White Desert" Courtney Ryley Cooper.
"Cappy Ricks Retires"—Peter B. Kyne.
"Souls for Sale"—Rupert Hughes.
"The Covered Wagon"—Emerson Hough.
"The Country Beyond"—James Oliver Curwood.

FRANKLIN APPEARS IN DRAMA

Constance D'Arcy Mackay Writes a Full-Length Play.

"Franklin" is Constance D'Arcy Mackay's first full-length play for the professional theater. Franklin's story begins with his arrival in Philadelphia at Keimer's printing shop.

Throughout the whole four acts the play follows history with slight variations which may be excused under dramatic license.

All characters but one have their counterpart in history. That one, Brotelle, is the personification of all the evil against which Franklin had to contend.

The play ends with Franklin's coup in regard to the French Treaty.

Miss Mackay has written several small plays which have been favorably received.

(Henry Holt and Co., New York; cloth, 195 pages.)

CANADA SCENE OF NEW NOVEL

"The Country Beyond" Another of Curwood's Virile Tales of the North.

Another story of the Northwest has come from the pen of James Oliver Curwood in "The Country Beyond."

The traditional outlaw for whom the Mounted Police scour the wilds of Canada in this case is not a bad man at heart. He has broken the law only for the sake of suffering humanity. He steals provisions from a crooked Indian agent in order to save a starving race. He does not murder, but is willing to take the blame for murder to save the woman he loves.

Nada, the girl, has been mistreated for ten years, ever since her parents were killed by the plague. Jed Hawkins, rum-runner, and his wife have made life miserable for the girl. Hawkins sells her to Mooney, a wood-cutter, for $1,000, but Jolly Roger McKay, the outlaw, saves her.

The descriptions are in Curwoods' virile and vivid style. They are not too long nor yet too short. One gets the full appreciation of the beauty they contain.

For those who like stories of the Northwest Mounted Police and stories fraught with melodrama, "The Country Beyond" is inviting.

How Nada and Jolly Roger almost reach safety when Breault, of the mounted, finds them and what Breault's mission really is are told dramatically.

(Cosmopolitan; cloth, illustrated, 340 pages.)

BOOK IS PUBLISHED FOR DOCTRINAL INSTRUCTION

S. L. Morris Meets Demand of Layman for Non-Technical Work.

"Presbyterianism, Principles and Practice," by S. L. Morris, is a study of the principles of that creed. The object of the book, says the author, "is to meet the demand for doctrinal instruction."

The volume is not too technical for the layman nor even for the young student. Questions on each chapter at the end of the book suggest its use as a Sunday school textbook.

(Presbyterian Committee of Publication, Richmond, Va.; paper or cloth, 173 pages, 75 cents or $1.)

EUGENICS AND LOVE MIX

Sins of Their Fathers Fall Upon Innocent Children.

In "Twin Souls," Mrs. Jeannie Blackburn Moran teaches the lesson of eugenics. She also proves that love laughs at eugenics and that eugenics laughs at love. Eugenics, laughing last, laughs longest.

The story is told by a young man who has had so little intercourse with the world that even after he is 26 years old he knows not the meaning of love. His mother is the only woman in the world for him until he sees a young girl on the beach. He falls in love at once, though he does not know it for love.

The woman, too, has felt the call of her 'twin soul,' but refuses to answer it. The curse of her family hangs heavily upon her.

The story is said to be based upon the life of a family with whom Mrs. Moran was slightly acquainted.

(Christopher Publishing House, Boston; cloth, 80 pages, $1.50 net.)

"After Death" is by Octogenerian.

Camille Flammation is an astronomer, a psychic investigator as well as an author. At 86 years of age, he has put out a new book, "After Death."

Kathleen Norris Writes of Drab Lives With Rare Charm

Kathleen Norris

Sincerity of the author is the keynote of "Certain People of Importance." Kathleen Norris writes of people, real people, our neighbors, our relatives, yes, even ourselves.

The book is drab, but never dull. Beginning with Reuben Crabtree's parents, three generations back, it continues through the lives, the loves, the hates, the disillusionments of a score and a half of persons. Only one marriage of the third generation is really a happy one.

Reuben Crabtree has two daughters and two sons. Rob, whom his sisters consider insincere, marries an eastern woman who dies soon after giving birth to a sickly baby. May, the oldest daughter, ruins the lives of a daughter and a son by her ambitions for them. The other two daughters fare somewhat better by finally taking things in their own hands. May loves her daughters and idolizes her son, but she puts wealth, position and money above love and congeniality.

Victoria, or Vick, whom we cannot help loving, marries without her parents' knowledge and consent. She is a rebel, too strong-minded think her parents. 'No man loves a strong-minded woman' was their constant cry. Vick wants to be a nurse, a musician, but no, she must sit at home until she gets married. Her first love affair ends in the suicide of her Spanish lover, to whose uncouthness her parents object until they find that he has millions coming to him. Then, however, it is too late.

Old Reuben's second son, Harry, is a weak, ineffectual sort of chap who gains our sympathy because of his pathetic sweetness. His wife always dreams of economies and wastes money trying to put some of them into practice. Frog-eyes has Lucy, but Mrs. Norris says she is a comely woman. After she drives a daughter into a loveless marriage we like her even less.

Miss Fanny, sister of May and of Rob and of Harry, who flirted outrageously in youth, develops into a touchy spinster who constantly raises the hopes of her nieces in regard to a European trip.

So the book goes on. It has been characterized as the "great American novel," "an epic of the American family," but is it?

It seems true to life, but is life made up entirely of disillusionment, of trouble, always, for the women, of repressed desires, of being tied down?

Is there only a temporary joy in the arrival of kiddies? Does constant child-bearing end in indifference little short of hate? Must men be deceitful, or, otherwise good, must they be weak, stupid, ineffectual?

"Certain People of Importance" is the talk of the hour, yet it pictures an existence more depressing than "Main Street." There is a rare charm in the descriptions, but why must Nelly's kiddies be so dirty yet so beautiful? Why should Hildegrade, a beauty of 7 years, speak street phrases?

Perhaps it is life. If so, life is heartlessly cruel. We are tempted to think that Esme is better off in an early death than poor, old, senile Reuben is in a busy life.

Everyone will read the book. Once started, one must finish it; it takes uch hold. But it leaves a feeling of "what's the use?" It succeeds in making one think, which is a good thing, but one's thoughts are not pleasant ones.

(Doubleday, Page and Co., Garden City, New York; cloth, 436 pages, $2 net.)

MORLEY'S POEMS IN DEMAND

Whimsical Pictures of Interesting Commonplaces in Free Verse.

"Translations From the Chinese," a quaint volume by Christopher Morley, is the most called-for book of poems in Columbia shops now.

It is a delightful little volume of free verse in which Morley with his usual whimsical manner has caught up the commonplace and added philosophy, beauty, satire, giving a certain quirk to the whole that makes the reader newly interested in the commonplace. Morley is a newspaper man—now a column writer on the New York Evening Post. Perhaps that partly accounts for his thorough knowledge of folks and his keen appreciation of the little things in life.

In his prologue Morely writes:

"There is, in each man's heart,
Chinese writing—
A secret script, a cryptic language;
The strange ideographs of the spirit,
Scribbled over or half erased
By the swift stenography of daily life."

One of his so-called translations is "The Hubbub of the Universe"—

"Man makes a great fuss
About this planet
Which is only a ball-bearing in the hub of the Universe.
It reminds me
Of the staff of a humorous weekly
Sitting in grave conference
On a two-line joke."

(George H. Doran, New York.)

NEW SOUTH SEA TALES OUT

Cannibalism Is Said to Exist Even Today.

A new light is cast on our knowledge of the South Sea Islanders by B. A. Erdland in his "South Sea Sketches."

The book tells of islands of the Marshall group and New Britain. The difference in standards of morality are made clear, although the author does not pretend to excuse the immoralities of the islanders.

Cannibalism is said to obtain in New Britain and adjoining islands. The South Sea Islands and their inhabitants have called forth much interest in the last few years. The author, having spent ten years there, is qualified to feed that interest.

Gruesome in part, yet the book is delightfully written.

(Stratford Co., Boston; cloth, illustrated, 106 pages.)

"ABBE PIERRE" IS CRITICISED

Jay William Hudson's Book Is Now in Fifth Editon.

L. S. in "The Freeman" has this to say to Jay William Hudson's "Abbe Pierre":

"Without discounting the tranquil merits of the book itself, it is more than likely that the considerable vogue of Jay William Hudson's "Abbe Pierre" is largely attributable to a reaction towards war-fiction, both bloodthirsty and pacifist. The story is scarcely more than an incident, seen through the speculative eyes of an old priest and decked out to the proportions of a full-length novel by the inclusions of much descriptive padding and pseudo-philosophy.——In the manner of its telling, the story meanders pleasantly, finding space for much interesting local color, much tradition and much rumination. All this is handled adroitly, recounted gracefully, and ultimately falls in with the main narrative, but a great part of it might equally as well have served as the foundation for a book of travel as for a work of fiction."

The book is now in its fifth edition.

SUCCESS IS A REALIZATION

Moods Vary But Real Selves Remain the Same.

Orison Swett Marden has brought out another one of his books telling how to be successful. In "Self-Discovery" he answers his own question of "Why remain a dwarf?"

Marden says that thousands of persons who are really capable achieve only mediocrity because they do not realize their own abilities. He says, "It is comparatively easy for us to size up other people, to measure their ability, and to predict their future with more or less accuracy, but how blind we are about ourselves!"

The real self, he says, does not change. Our selves do not shift with our varying moods.

(Thomas Y. Crowell Co., New York; cloth, 92 pages.)

Librarians Will Go to Conventon.

H. O. Severance, University librarian, will attend the regional meeting of the state library associations of Kansas, Nebraska and Missouri, at St. Joseph, October 17 to 20. Besides the joint sessions, each state association will have special conferences devoted to the particular problems of its territory. Others from the University libary will probably attend.

SECRETARY OF LABOR WRITES STORY OF LIFE

Founder of Moosehart Produces Remarkable Volume of an Ironworker's History.

"The Iron Fuddler" by James J. Davis is the life story of the Secretary of Labor. Beginning with incidents in his childhood, Mr. Davis, in a conversational manner, lets the world know that he has risen from a poverty-stricken lad through various stages until President Harding considered him so well-versed in labor activities as to be worth a place in the Cabinet.

Remembering his own childhood helped Mr. Davis found the Moosehart, Ind., school for orphans.

He deplores the habit of using capitalism and labor for employer and employe, especially as the meanings do not often coincide.

Beginning to work before he was 8 years old, he has continued ever since. At 48 he is looked up to, a real American.

The elder Davis had been an iron puddler both in Wales and America. Young Davis followed naturally in his footsteps. Once when he struck for more pay, he left his work in Alabama and went to Louisiana. There he failed to do work hard enough for a man twenty years his senior. He was fired. Later his friends after thirty days of work, were chased out of town without being paid.

Autographics of remarkable persons make good reading. This is no exception. Joseph G. Cannon, in introducing the volume, says that the man who wrote it "is indeed a remarkable man."

(Bobbs-Merrill, Indianapolis; cloth, 295 pages, $2.)

THREE BOOKS ADD MYSTERY

Edgar Saltus' "Ghost Girl" Said to Be His Best Attempt.

Mysteries come with the approach of fall, Hallowe'en and hobgoblins. This week's book reviews include a ghost girl, some pirates and a blackmail story, thrillingly presented by different authors. To those who like mystery, these books will be especially pleasing.

Are there ghosts? Do ghosts walk only at night? When is a ghost not a ghost? "The Ghost Girl," who isn't a ghost at all, answers these and other questions.

The hero, or mayhap he is the villain, has a birth-mark on his forehead, which, when he is excited, becomes livid and looks like a spider. Otherwise he is good to look upon.

Edgar Saltus, before he died, wrote his publishers that he considered this his best book.

The heroine is almost too lovely, too beautiful to be true. She also has a double who might be classed as a sub-heroine. The man who tells the story is an author who is in love with her whom we call sub-heroine. His friend, our hero or villain as you would have it, marries, under false pretences, our lovely heroine.

However, the novel is not of the paper-backed variety. The author is sure of his readers. He knows they enjoy a mystery story. He gives them one with undeniable charm. For those who like stories of wealth, there are characters who are wealthy. For those who must have a love story, he furnishes two. One is a simple one and the other contains the enternal triangle.

Some of the characters are particularly brilliant. Their repartee is amusing. The clash of brilliant minds adds charm.

"The Ghost Girl" is one of the best-constructed of modern novels. Saltus gives us a mystery story which he unravels so easily that we wonder why we did not think of the answer before.

(Boni and Liveright, New York; cloth, 236 pages, $2 net.)

The spirit of distrust and restlessness which reformers tell us is the result of the World War must have become ingrained in Bonteck Van Dyke.

Blessed, or cursed, with much wealth, young Van Dyke is quite certain that even the girl he loves wants only his money.

He takes his friends yatching and makes them believe that they are marooned on an island. Francis Lynde shows his knowledge of human nature in the way he makes his characters react.

"Pirates' Hope" contains read buried treasure and pirates.

(Charles Scribner's Sons, New York; cloth, 299 pages, $1.75 net.)

How a man is blackmailed and is brave enough to disregard threats against his life are told effectively by Paul and Mabel Thorne in their latest mystery, "The Secret Toll."

Disregarding a demand to put $10,000 in an oak tree on a lonely road, he determines to ferret out the criminals. How he succeeded is graphically described in an unexpected climax.

(Dodd, Mead and Co., New York; cloth, 268 pages, $1.75 net.)

Motion Pictures Aid Reading.

The moving picture industry, by filming many really good novels, is given credit for a revival of novel reading among the American public.

Greek Fragment Found.

A fragment from "The Path Seeker," said to have been written by Sophocles, has been unearthed by the "Feypt Exploration Fund."

HISTORIES ARE WRITTEN FOR EVERY TASTE

Present-Day Europe Is Background for American Study, Say Beard and Bagley.

INDIAN TALE FOR YOUTH

Army Officer Writes Scathingly of Those Who Sat by Calmly While War Was Planned.

From Canada to Europe and back again is the way the newest histories run. An historial romance, a background of history, a book that analyzes the World War and a child's book on Indians make up a varied offering of volumes recently off the press.

"Under Canadian Skies," by Joseph P. Choquet, is partly, at least, an attempt to correct the impressions given by some other writers about the French-Canadians. The book treats of that time in history after the American Revolution when descendants of the French in Canada wished to have a Canadian republic, free from British control. The author insists that the book is not propaganda against the English, although one might think so from some of the scenes wherein the Englishman is not portrayed in a very favorable light.

Choquet does not spend all his story on duels, quarrels or battles. An element of humor is brought in with Hercules Jarret, whose nose resembles "a medium-sized peach and is multi-colored." Jarret is inordinately fond of rum. An Irishman, Jeremiah McGillicuddy, in his attempt to learn French, is funny. He says that he wants to speak the Parisian French, but is told that his is mere Irish-French.

As an historical romance, "Under Canadian Skies" gives us sugar-coated history, suitable for the occasional reader as well as the inveterate one. The customs, like those of every other country, interest one. The book is plainly enough written even for the young reader.

(Oxford Press, Providence, R. I.; cloth, 311 pages, $2.60.)

American history has long been taught in the secondary schools. Beard and Bagley hope to introduce a new history course with "Our Old World Background" which has just come off the press.

The first chapter is devoted to telling the pupils and teachers that a background of European history is necessary to a comprehensive study of American history. However, they differ with preceding authors in that they claim that an Old World background does not stop with America's Declaration of Independence, but continus today with the stream of immigrants which comes to our country.

The latter chapters are devoted to a discussion of European affairs as they have changed in the last five years. The language is simple and direct as a history for young persons must be.

With comparative freedom from prejudice, the authors show the interdependence of nations. The last of the volume is given over to a short sermon to its young readers, showing them the opportunities before them and suggesting ways of making the best of them.

(MacMillan, New York; cloth, illustrated, 491 pages, pronouncing index of names.)

"Old Europe's Suicide" by Brigadier-general Christopher B. Thomson is a scathing rebuke both to those international leaders who led the world astray in 1914 and to those persons who calmly sat by and allowed the World War.

From the first of the Balkan wars until the Peace Conference at Paris in 1919, the reader is shown cause and effect.

General Thomson does not consider the League of Nations a panacea for European ills. He even suggests that the leading members are not really adhering to its principles.

"Five years of war have been a purifying blood-bath, they have taught innumerable men and women, through suffering, to think." This, according to the author, is the one great accomplishmnt of the slaughter.

The frontispiece contains a striking illustration. It is labeled "The Pyramid of Errors." The base is founded on pan-Germanism and pan-Slavism and the apex is reached with the peace treaties of 1919.

One chapter is devoted to the English viewpoint of the Russian Revolution. Kerensky is credited with having destroyed an evil institution, but with having substituted rhetoric for government.

The volume is a resume of a short period in world history that was fraught with dangers still unconquered.

The book is written from a military viewpoint, even a personal viewpoint. The author aims to show up the errors of the past so that they may be guide posts for the future.

(Thomas Seltzer, New York; cloth, 192 pages, $2.)

A true story of Indian life, uninfluenced by white man's intrusion is given by George Bird Grinnell in "When Buffalo Ran." The author has written a number of other stories dealing with Indian life.

The style is clear and most particularly adapted to the taste of youngsters about 15 years old.

The story is told by an Indian lad who carefully describes his daily life. The story flows on as though it were written from a carefully kept diary.

One chapter is devoted to directing the Indian lad in the way that he should live. White youngsters would profit from the same advice.

The book is wholesome, it gives the reader information in a pleasing manner and does not affect his passions. He does not care to kill just because the Indian hunted. He knows that the Indian was getting his food. If anything, the book instills into the reader a real regard for the Red man.

(Yale University Press, New Haven, Conn.; cloth, illustrated with photographs, 114 pages, $2.50 net.)

42 NEW BOOKS FOR LIBRARY

Hutchison's Books Most Popular With Novel Readers.

The city library has a list of forty-two new books that are to be added to the shelves. A few of the books have come, but the large demand all over the country keeps the publishers behind on their orders.

A. S. M. Hutchinson's new book, "This Freedom," is called for the most. His previous publication, "If Winter Comes," holds second place in popularity.

AMERICAN LITERATURE BAD

So Says Sir Maurice Low of the Morning Post.

Sir Maurice Low, Washington correspondent of the London Morning Post, has sent his paper a scathing statement concerning the literature of the American people. It follows in part:

"—young authors who have blossomed out since the war and been touted by their cliques as geniuses have thrown all decency to the winds. Their books are read by a certain class because they are pornographic, because, as these authors brag, they call a spade a spade and leave nothing to the imagination."

Sir Maurice adds that the popularity of this sort of literature has about run its course and that American authors are beginning to understand that the public wishes something better.

"Star" to Appear in October.

Mrs. Forrestine C. Hooker worked over her new book, "Star," during her summer in Washington. The book which will appear next month is based upon the story of an Indian pony.

"Outline of History" Not in Demand

The demand, in Columbia at least, for H. G. Wells' "Outline of History" has disappeared altogether. For some time there has not been a sale.

"L.' Homme Traque" Chosen Novel.

"L'Homme Traque" Chosen Novel.

the French Academy, is "L'Homme Traque" by Francis Carco.

Week's Thought From Fenelon.

"If the riches of both Indies were laid at my feet in exchange for my love of reading, I would spurn them all."—Fenelon.

EUGENE FIELD'S LIKING FOR PRACTICAL JOKES SHOWN BY STORIES

Because he was a Missourian, and because he has walked the very streets they now walk, and bought his neckties and breakfasts where they do, Columbians are ever interested in Eugene Field, formerly a student in the University and the first editor of the Missourian.

In his book "Fifty Years a Journalist," Melville Stone, counselor of the Associated Press, tells several interesting stories of Field who worked on the Chicago Daily News of which Stone was editor.

Those who know Field best by his poem "Little Boy Blue," will not want to believe Mr. Stone's story of Field's conduct at the theater.

"Often if there was a child in the seat back of him, Field would turn and make a face which would set the infant bawling. The mother having no idea of the cause, would search in vain for an offending pin, while Field's sides were shaking with delight," writes Mr. Stone.

That Eugene Field turned his habit of playing practical jokes along practical lines is shown by another of these stories.

"There was a public gathering. I do not remember the reason for it. But while the procession was marching by, with beating drums and waving banners, my office door opened and there entered Eugene Field and his three children, Trotty, Pinney and Daisy. The youngsters were in rags, patches on their garments, and their toes bursting from old borrowed shoes. 'I must have an increase in salary,' said our joker, as he pointed at the example of abject poverty he had carefully prepared."

The society editor of the Daily News at that time was a "modest little person, the very pink of propriety," Mr. Stone says. "Her duty required her to attend an evening party, return to the office about midnight, write her copy, hand it to the city editor and go home. With his impish instinct, Field waited one night until she had gone and then, with a bit of chalk, he traced a man's footprints from the street up three flights of stairs to her room and all the way down again. And the next morning I received a formal note of complaint from him charging that Miss ——was receiving callers in her office at an unseemly hour; that she was not a discreet person, and as damning evidence he asked me to make note of the footprints on the stairs."

PENDULUM IN LITERATURE IN MOTION NOW

Favorites of Decade Ago Are Being Replaced in Affections of American Public.

REALISM IS NEW VOGUE

Rinehart, Wharton and Tarkington Still Hold Their Own Among Columbia Readers.

Is American literary taste undergoing a rapid and decided transition period? If sales records on books signify anything, it is. In the last few months the booksellers of Columbia have been forced to shelve the stand-bys of the previous decade to make room on their counters for the incoming school of moderns.

Harold Bell Wright, Zane Grey and most of the other recently popular authors are fast going to the discard, at least in Columbia reading circles. Three of these novelists still hold their own. They are Mary Roberts Rinehart, Edith Wharton and Booth Tarkington. The others seem doomed.

The mechanical romanticists are being replaced chiefly by the realists, an embryonic school which is maintaining a shaky equilibrium on the ragged edge of art. Realism, as expressed in the works of Eugene O'Neil, Joseph Hergesheimer and Sherwood Anderson, is new. It is distinctly American. As such it is on probation.

Will realism last? To that the old enigmatic answer of the ages—who knows? Its present tendency is to wabble between a beautiful and artistic naturalism and gross vulgarity. As literature, there is no doubt that it excels the made-to-order best-seller type recently so much in popular favor. But in its various ramifications, where will it lead to?

In poetry a like change is going on. Kipling, alone, of the popular bards seems secure. Why Kipling? H. L. Mencken says he is but a "clever artisan with a bag of tricks." Other critics assert that he has poetic genius of the first order. Regardless, his sales remain strong. There are practically no calls for Guest's jingles and few for the rhymes of Service.

At one store "Translations from the Chinese" by Christopher Morley and "Main Street and Other Poems" by Joyce Kilmer are the fastest sellers at present. Drama, especially paper-backed copies of one-act plays, has taken a phenomenal jump lately.

Yes, the taste of the reading public is changing. Perhaps it will be permanent, and perhaps it is but another example of the old pendulum theory.

LIBRARY GETS NEW BOOKS

Street's New Book Describes Many Phases of Life in Japan.

Julian Street's latest book, "Mysterious Japan," is now in the University library. It is written informally, in the first person, and deals with practically every phase of Japanese life from feudalistic Japan to the status of women in business and professional life. Mr. Street avoids political questions of the present and the foreign relations of Japan, devoting only two chapters out of twenty-eight to that subject.

The volume is illustrated with photographs as various as the topics he discusses; one is of a native temple; another, a detailed study of the geisha girl's coiffure. The purpose of the book seems to be to make Japan less mysterious. It is dedicated to Frank A. Vanderlip.

A book as yet uncataloged is "Principles of Interior Decorating," by Bernard C. Jakwar, extension lecturer in interior decoration of the University of California. This deals with the underlying principles of decoration, line, color, form, contrast, light and shade. Others are a "History of the Gregorian Calendar" by Alexander Philip and a duplicate copy of the Short Story Yearbook for 1919.

Library Tax Recommended.

A library tax of one mill for city and county has been recommended by the committee on taxation of the Constitutional Convention of Missouri, now in session in Jefferson City. The American Library Association proposes a minimum levy of $1 per person, adult population, which is heavier than that recommended by the committee.

A new Volume of Jane Austen.

Recently discovered manuscripts by Jane Austen will be published in book form by the middle of September. "Love and Friendship" will contain two novels, a bit of the history of England and some letters written by Jane Austen when she was about 16 years old.

R. J. Cuddihy Honored by French.

Robert J. Cuddihy of the Literary Digest has been awarded a knighthood in the Order of the Legion of Honor by the French government for the services of his publication in the various relief campaigns.

George Robert Sims Is Dead.

George Robert Sims, author of "The Lights o' London," "Two Little Vagabonds" and "The Romany Rye," is dead at 75 years. His "Lights o' London" is said to have netted him more than $350,000.